

COMMUNITY PLAYERS

of Salisbury



Back Stage

May 2022



From the Desk of the President...

Dearest Theater lovers,
Sometimes in theater being able to improvise and be flexible is the name of the game. As is happening in theaters around the world, our recent productions of **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee** and **Senior Follies** had to be postponed and rescheduled. With Covid present our number one priority was the health and safety of our cast, production crew and audience members. We are extremely grateful to the administration and staff at Wor-Wic Community College for being so gracious and allowing us to reschedule our shows in the Guerrieri Hall Theater. A special shout out to the folks that man our ticket platform for all the work needed to contact ticket holders to reschedule or refund tickets. Thank you to our website technician and our social media specialist for keeping our sites current, sometimes with multiple daily updates. We so appreciate our house manager and ushers for their flexibility. We can't forget about the dedication from our behind-the-scenes crews in light, sound and back stage and our actors. Thanks for adjusting your schedules, attending extra rehearsals, and doing everything you can to present the very best show possible. Last, but not least, thank you to our fabulous and understanding audiences. From mask wearing and social distancing to rescheduling tickets, thank you for sticking with us as we strive to keep you both safe and entertained. Our 85th season continues with **Jesus Christ Superstar** in June. This show is going to be amazing! Hope to see you there.

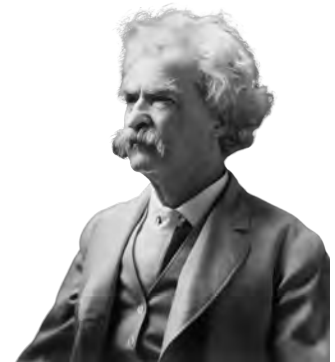
~Melissa Dasher
President



Articles, photos, etc. for publication in Back Stage should be emailed to me (popirusty@comcast.net) by the 15th of each month. Also, if you have ideas for the improvement of our newsletter, please let me know!

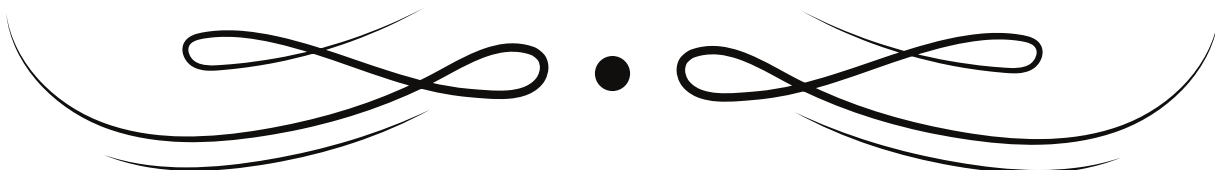
Rusty Mumford
Corresponding Secretary

Matt Bogdan thanks the cast and crew for their effort and creativity in the production of **Mark Twain: His Works of Wit and Wisdom**. Shows were performed in March at the Globe Theater in Berlin, the Brick Room in Salisbury, the Moose Lodge in Salisbury, and Kylan Barn in Delmar. Approximately \$1400 was raised for the Players. Matt also thanks the Farmer's Bank of Willards, Eastern Shore Podiatry, and Hebron Savings Bank for their sponsorships, as well as the advertisers in the program.



Special Productions Committee

Are you interested in directing and/or producing a special production for the Players? This would be a production that falls outside of the four mainstage performances, our regular season. For example, Matt Bogdan directed and produced a Poe show and Twain show at various venues, including the Globe Theater, the Moose Lodge, the Brick Room, and Kylan Barn, and Sharon Benchoff directed and produced Pericles at Furnace Town. The special productions could be for Weekends on the Lawn, a Christmas show, a dinner theater, or partnership shows with venues such as Furnace Town. If interested, contact Kel Nagel (kelnagel@yahoo.com), Shelbie Thompson (shelbiethompson4@gmail.com) or Matt Bogdan (oceancityhappyme@aol.com).



COMMUNITY PLAYERS AWARDS RUTH BURNETT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP TO TWO AREA HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

President Melissa Dasher and Scholarship Chair Lynne Bratten visited a recent All-County Musical *Into The Woods* rehearsal to announce the recipients of the CPOS Ruth Burnett Memorial Scholarship for 2022. In the presence of their peers and parents, Grace Ashby and Lillian Dasher were each presented with a \$500 scholarship check.



Grace Ashby, daughter of Leisl & Bryan Ashby, is a senior at Wicomico High School. She appeared in the Players' Backyard Drive-in production of *From Film To Broadway* in the fall of 2020. Grace hopes to attend Rider University and earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Musical Theater.



Lillian Dasher, daughter of Ken & Melissa Dasher, is a senior at Parkside High School. She has performed in many Players' productions including *Wizard of Oz*, *Les Mis*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Mary Poppins*, *Beauty And The Beast*, *From Film To Broadway* and is currently in rehearsal for *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Lilly plans to attend Messiah University where she will double major in Worship & Music and Musical Theatre.





CAST LIST

Jesus--Joshua Smith
Judas--Will Townsend
Mary--Katie Parsons
Peter--Jason Bruce
Simon--Jake Brittingham
Annas--Cayden Wallace
Herod--Ken Johnson
Caiphas--Pete Evans
Pilate--Mark Decker

Apostles

Cayden Wallace, Kevin Kinnamon, Konnor Stever, Kyle Hayes, Luke Schoellkopf, Ra Fitz-Coy, Ted Donahue, Norm Wolske, Zachery Werner

Women

Abby Cuesta, Alana Troxell, April Currey, Briana McCaffrey, Britni Ilczuk, Chloe Dasher, Deborah Brutt, Jessica Windsor, Lilly Dasher, Mary Cathell, Shelbie Thompson

Men

Ben Reavis, Darrell Mullins, Matt Bogdan, Rusty Mumford, Sammy Barnes, Steve Culver

Children

Chloe Larsen, Ruby Ludwick, Sarah Wagner

Jesus Christ Superstar is the genesis of the rock opera musical. First produced in 1971, the music has never grown stale or outdated and the lyrics speak of our world today. There have been seven revival productions on Broadway and the West End and numerous tours during the past fifty years. This is the first time that Community Players has performed this musical and I am exhilarated to be bringing our production to you. We are keeping the iconic images and sounds those of us who owned the double album and saw the film have come to expect. But we have added our own vision as well. An emotional journey of the last week of Jesus' life and those whom he impacted. The play is rated PG and will be performed at Wi-Hi Auditorium on June 17, 18 & 19. Tickets through sbyplayers.com or 410-546-0099. Please join us for this Andrew Lloyd Webber classic.

Jesus Christ Superstar Production Team

Director – Sharon Benchoff
Musical Director – Susan Robinson
Choreographer – Katie Oakley
Producer – Kim Cuesta
Assistant Director – Maddi Cuesta
Stage Manager – Kate Adkins
Set Design – Ken Johnson & Stefanie Beard
Costumes – Lynne Bratten & Jenny Tusing
Lighting – Travis Comegys
Sound – Tom Robinson

Not only do I have a fantastic cast full of talent, personality and energy and a stellar orchestra, I have a dream team production crew. I have assembled a group of amazing women (and yes a few of my most favorite guys) to bring my vision of **Superstar** to life.

Sharon Benchoff
Director

THEATRE TEASERS

Trivia by Sharon Benchoff
(May Broadway Birthdays Theatre Trivia)

1. He wrote this beloved play about the boy who lives in Neverland.
2. The 2002 jukebox musical **Movin' Out** features the songs of this singer/songwriter.
3. This actor is part of a theatrical family including his father Junius Brutus and brother Edwin, but is most famous for his Ford's Theatre appearance on April 14, 1865.
4. He wrote the music and lyrics of **Annie Get Your Gun**, based on the life of sharpshooter Annie Oakley.
5. His Broadway stage production of Shakespeare's "**Julius Caesar**" (1937)-in which the setting was changed to a modern Fascist Rome still remains, the longest-running Broadway production of the play. You may know him from his broadcast of "The War of the Worlds" or Citizen Kane.
6. This author's characters evolved into **The Wiz** and **Wicked**.
7. Maybe best known for his films including **12 Angry Men** and **On Golden Pond**, this actor also starred in **Our Town** and **Mr. Roberts** on Broadway.
8. Robert Morse (not Ken Johnson) originated the role of J. Pierrepont Finch in this musical.
9. One of the most acclaimed actors of the 20th century, born May 22, 1907, this Brit made his mark in many of Shakespeare's leading roles, including those of Hamlet, Henry V, Anthony, Richard III and Macbeth.
10. After starting to act in a London theatre club at the age of 15, he began his film career at age 18 by playing Cedric Diggory in the fantasy film Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (2005). He went on to star as Edward Cullen in the film adaptations of the Twilight novels

Answers found on page 6

Community Players of Salisbury, Inc.

Ticket Order Form

Tickets are now on sale for the three remaining shows of our 85th season. Tickets may be purchased through our website--www.sbyplayers.com, by completing and returning this order form with your check, by phone (410-546-0099), or by visiting our pre-show box office (Monday and Thursday, 5:30 - 8:00 PM at Players, 5109 Nutters Cross Road).



Adults _____ at \$25 each	Please choose the performance you plan to attend. _____ June 17 at 7:30 PM _____ June 18 at 7:30 PM _____ June 19 at 2:00 PM
Senior (55+) _____ at \$20 each	
Student _____ at \$20 each	
Child (<12) _____ at \$15 each	
Family _____ at \$65 each	
TOTAL _____	

CHECK TOTAL _____

Please fill in the requested information below and return this form with your check to Community Players of Salisbury, PO Box 2431, Salisbury, MD 21802. Make all checks payable to **Community Players**.

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Your check will serve as your receipt. Tickets will be held at the Will Call table.

ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUESTIONS:



1. Sir James M. Barrie
2. Billy Joel
3. John Wilkes Booth
4. Irving Berlin
5. Orson Welles
6. L. Frank Baum
7. Henry Fonda
8. How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying
9. Lord Laurence Olivier
10. Robert Pattinson

Answers:

COMMUNITY PLAYERS OF SALISBURY - 2022 BALLOT

NOMINEE FOR VICE PRESIDENT:

- Tom Robinson

NOMINEE FOR RECORDING SECRETARY:

- Darrell Mullins (continuing)

NOMINEE FOR CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

- Rusty Mumford (continuing)

NOMINEE FOR TREASURER:

- Charlie Linton (continuing)

NOMINEES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS: (you may vote for no more than 3)

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sammy Barnes | <input type="checkbox"/> Pete Cuesta | <input type="checkbox"/> Jerry Gietka |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharon Benchoff | <input type="checkbox"/> April Currey | <input type="checkbox"/> Kyle Hayes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matt Bogdan | <input type="checkbox"/> Cass Dasher | |

Your Name _____ *OR* Membership number _____
(Please Print)

All adult members (18 and over) whose dues are paid for 2021-2022 may vote.

(Individual, Family, Patrons)

This ballot may be copied so that all adult members may vote.

Mail your completed ballot to: Community Players – PO Box 2431 – Salisbury, MD 21802
or drop off in the Ballot Box on the front porch at Players, 5109 Nutters Cross Rd. Salisbury

All ballots must be received by May 31, 2022

Community Players of Salisbury
P. O. Box 2431
Salisbury, MD 21802

NONPROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
SALISBURY, MD 21801
PERMIT 186

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Please consider
becoming a member
of Community Players.
If you are not sure if
your dues are paid for
the current year,
please check the
mailing label on this
newsletter.
If it does not show
2021-22, your dues
are not up-to-date.*

Next Monthly Membership Meeting - Wednesday, June 1 at 6:30 PM

Community Players Officers & Board of Directors
July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

President: Melissa Dasher - bizemomx5@comcast.net
Vice-President: Kel Nagel - kelnagel@yahoo.com
Recording Secretary: Darrell Mullins - dgmullins@salisbury.edu
Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford - popirusty@comcast.net
Treasurer: Charlie Linton - charliecamtransport@yahoo.com
Immediate Past-President: Sharon Benchoff - fresnelop@gmail.com

Board Members

Sammy Barnes, Cass Dasher, Tom Robinson - Term Expires 2022
David Allen, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2023
Kate Adkins, Bobbie Calloway, Robin Finley - Term Expires 2024

Community Players is committed to celebrating an inclusive culture of creativity by welcoming actors, technicians, designers, musicians, and production team members from varied backgrounds with regards to race, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, physical & mental ability, and religious & political beliefs.